

Amendments to the Specification

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 1 line 23 as follows

Broadly the present invention relates to a buoyancy device comprising a central portion for forming a rear buoyancy area interconnected to a pair of lateral portions each forming an under arm buoyancy area by a pair of front portion forming front buoyancy areas, each of said pair of front portions connecting its adjacent lateral portion to said central portion, said central portion and said pairs of front and lateral portions forming a simulated W-shape when viewed in a plan view, each of said lateral portions projecting from its front portion a distance sufficient to extend under an adjacent arm of a user and provide a portion of said lateral portion positioned behind said user which together with said rear buoyancy area cause the user to float in a more upright position than when a similar conventional buoyancy device is being used

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 2 line 1 as follows

Preferably said rear buoyancy area and said pair of front portions diverge relative to each other from said central portion outward to their respective adjacent lateral portions combine when in use on a user to orient said user at an angle β of between 45 and 90 degrees.

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 3 line 24 as follows

The effectiveness of the present invention may be seen from a comparison of Figures 3 (which shows a conventional prior art floatation device 10A) with the Figure 4 which shows the present invention floatation device 10 in operation. As is apparent the user 24 A stabilizes with the axis of the body as indicated by the axis 26 at and angle α to the surface 28 of the water of about 0° to 45° degrees. Whereas the axis 26 of the user 24 of the present invention stabilizes with its axis 26 at and angle β to the surface 28 of the water of about 45° to 90° degrees. It is apparent that the angle α is considerably smaller than angle β . It is also apparent that the present invention (floatation device 10 in Figure 4) holds the user significantly higher above the water level. This reorientation and raising of the user 24 higher above the water level 28 is primarily due to the effects of side or lateral buoyancy areas 14A and 16A which as is clearly apparent in use extend under the arms of the user and have a portion at the back of the user (see Figures any of 2a, 2b, 4 and 8) and to a lesser degree by the rear buoyancy area 12A. By making the rear buoyancy area 12A so that it extends farther down the back of the user 24 than the conventional collar structure of the prior art device 10 (Figure 3) the user is forced into the more upright position shown in Figure 4.

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